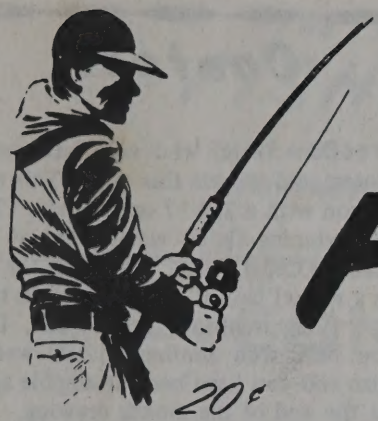
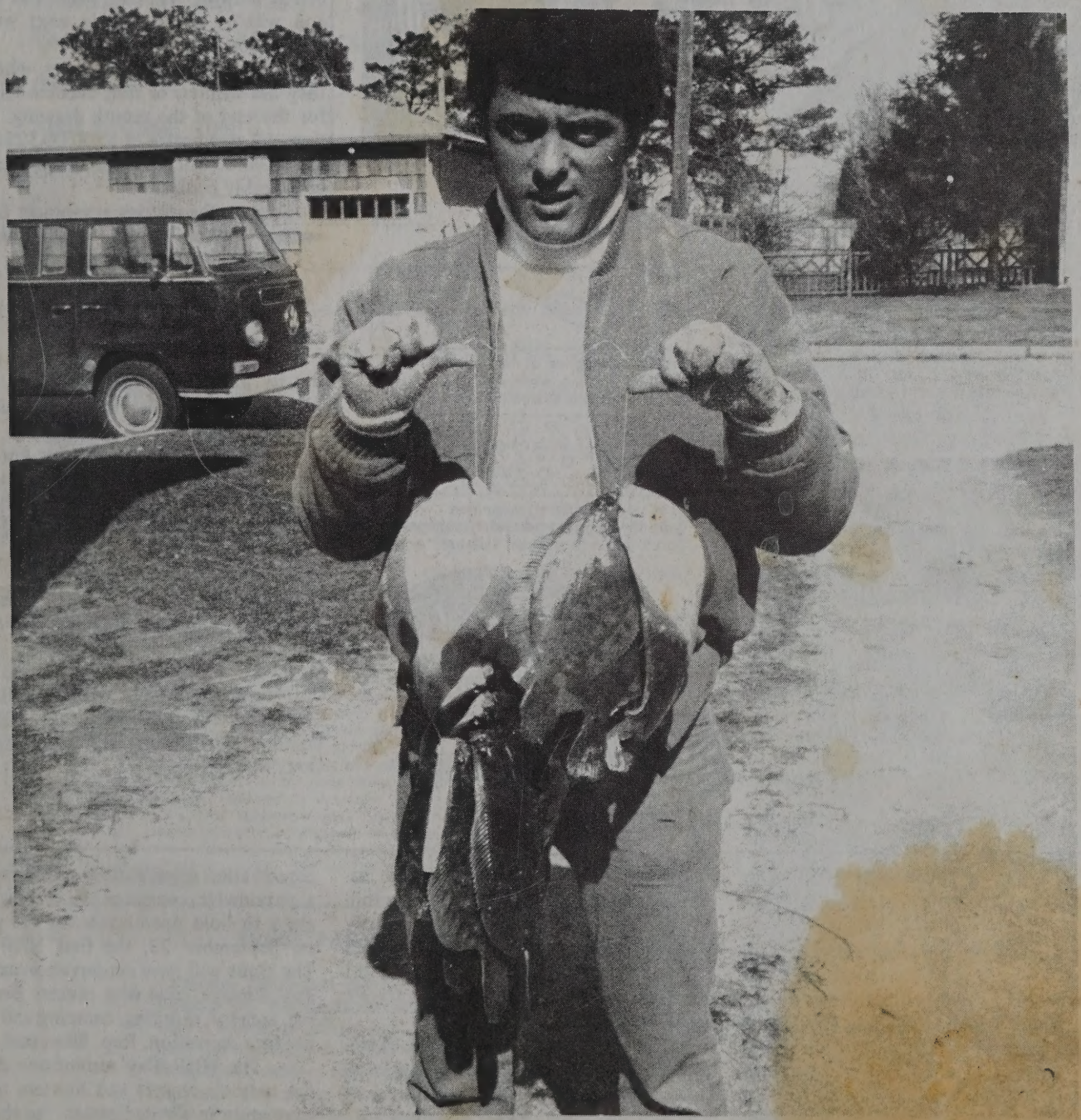
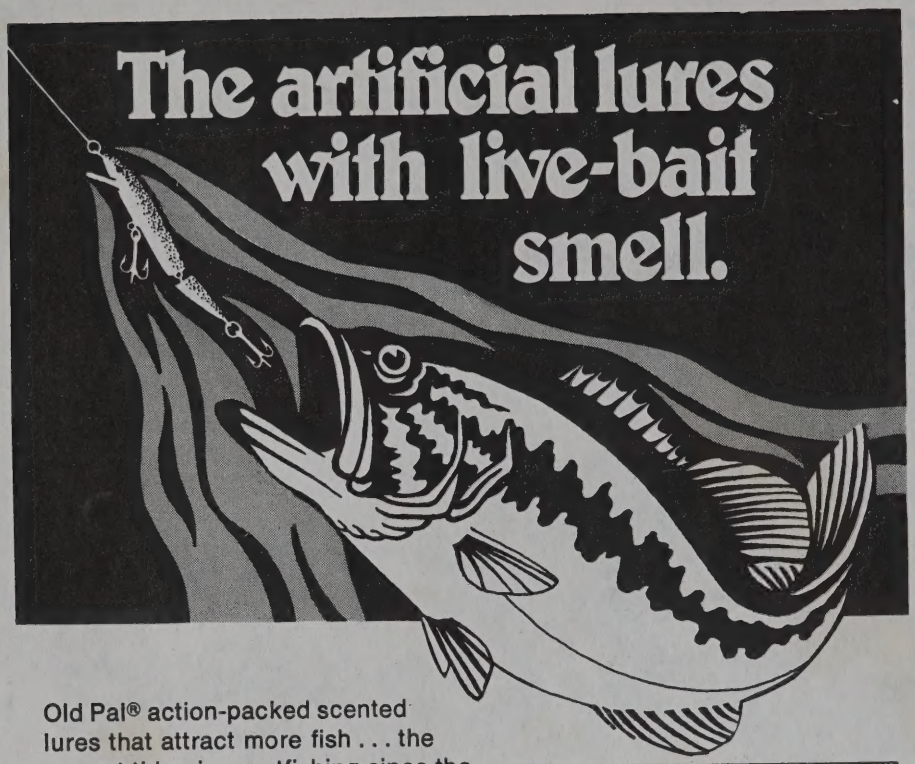



# The Long Island FISHERMAN

APRIL 6, ISSUE NO. 12, 1972



# The artificial lures with live-bait smell.



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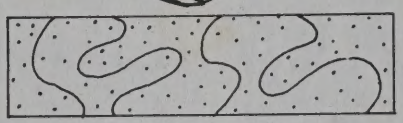
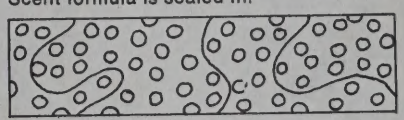
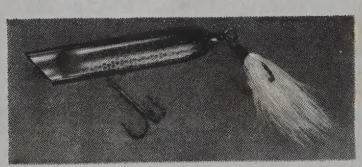


Artist's conception of magnified Hydron® coating, when dry. Scent formula is sealed in.



Artist's conception of magnified Hydron® coating, when wet. Coating swells, "pores" open to release "live-bait" scent.



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## Contest

Dan Siano, who won last week's contest, did it again this week. This time he won with a 2 lb. 7 oz. flounder. This prize-winning flattie was caught at Sag Harbor's Cedar Point. Dan took the fish on a mussel bait at the peak of the tide.

Congratualtions once again, Dan. You have won another $12.00 weekly prize and you have become eligible again for the end of the month drawing. The March drawing will take place this week and will be announced in next week's publication.

Remember, all that enter, whether they are winners or not, become eligible for the end of the month drawing. The year-end grand prize of $500.00, $250.00, and $100.00 will go to one of the winners of a weekly contest.

Keep the entries coming in folks!

## CLUB NEWS

The Rockaway Striper Club is holding its Annual Awards Dinner on April 15th at the Chelsea Lobster House in Howard Beach.

The Club is also looking for new members, so if anyone is interested, just contact: Frank Rannazzi, 59-55 47th Ave., Woodside, N.Y. 11377.

The Atlantic Anglers, of Massapequa, announced the following officers for 1972: President, Mel Coppola; Vice President, Bill Spraul; Treasurer, Don Clifton; Recording Secretary, Brad Baker; Corresponding Secretary, Jim Walters; Board of Gov., Dr. J. Everett; Board of Gov., Ken Shivers.

## NATIONAL HUNTING, FISHING DAY GAINS SUPPORT IN CONGRESS

Forty-four representatives in Congress are pushing for a resolution which would make the fourth Saturday of each September National Hunting and Fishing Day, according to Rep. Bob Sikes, Fla.

The congressman either have introduced their own resolutions or have cosponsored resolutions identical to Rep. Sikes' H.J. Res. 798.

The movement for a special day in recognition of the contribution of 55 million American hunters and fishermen to conservation, recreation and the nation's economy gained new momentum March 2 when the Senate unanimously passed the NHF Day resolution by Sen Thomas J. McIntyre, N.H. Thirty-eight senators cosponsored Sen. McIntyre's resolution.

Rep. Sikes said that all House resolutions have been referred to Subcommittee No.4 of the House Committee on the Judiciary. Rep. Don Edwards, Calif., is chairman of the subcommittee, and Rep. Emanuel Celler, N.Y., is chairman of the full committee.

More than 30 national sportsmen-conservation organizations are supporting a nationwide campaign for hundreds of clubs to hold open house for the public on September 23, the first NHF Day. The clubs will have conservation exhibits and displays, plus skill centers for casting, archery, shooting, camping and other outdoor recreation, Rep. Sikes said.

The NHF Day resolutions call on the nation's anglers and hunters to lead the nation in a rededication "to the conservation and respectful use of our wildlife and natural resources," Rep. Sikes stated.

The Long Island
# FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR
FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

VOL. 7 NO. 12 APRIL 6, 1972

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### FRONT PAGE PHOTO

**Flounder fishermen on both shores are finding Mr. Flattie more than willing to take a worm or mussel bait. While boatmen are catching the bulk of the flounders, shore casters are getting their licks in also. The angler on our front page is Mike Reina, brother of publisher, Rich Reina. Mike fished the waters around Good Samaritan Hospital and accounted for about 20 flounders. Worm was the preferred bait.**

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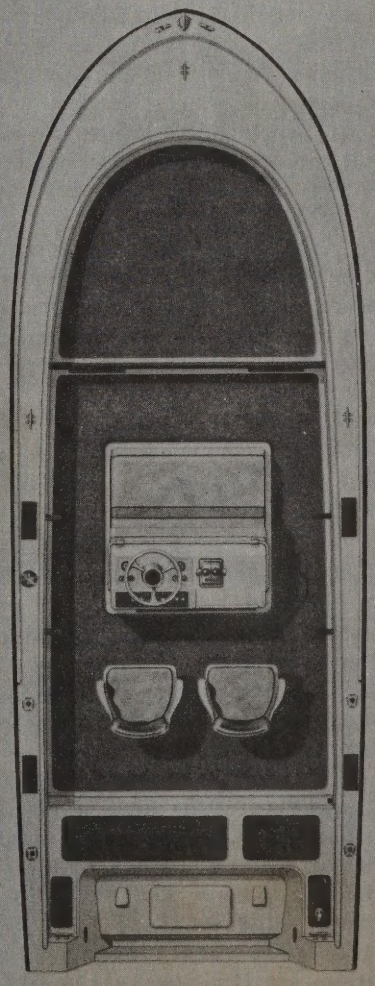

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# Chum Lines

Dear Vince,

I am a subscriber of the L.I.F. and have been for two years, and for this length of time I have read it from cover to cover. I faithfully read surf articles. I have purchased many books on fishing (all kinds of fishing), but only reread the books on surf fishing. When I think of all the time some of these people spend at beaches and jetties and other places, I feel guilty with the amount of time I spend there. (But I read on.) I appreciate the learning of tides, moons, temperatures, bait and so many other overlooked necessities of surf fishing.

After reading Jim O'Gallagher's article, I just had to let you know how I feel about fishing. Two years, and four fish later, (Field 9, White Shack, Wantagh Bridge, police, tolls, Compo Beach, Bryam Point, more police), not necessarily in that order, I have had a ball.

As I stated, as a fisherman I stink, but I do not fish with the intention of catching loads of fish. I am rewarded in my own way, by spending time and getting away from almost everything (er, well, you know what I mean). The apprenticeship is, was and will always be welcome. I hope I never come home with a bag full of fish for then all may be in vain. Sincerely, John Ricci

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is my check for a one year subscription. As to fishing I am a neophyte. In fact I just received my first fishing rod from an uncle in Rhode Island, who is partly responsible for my present interest in fishing.

I thought a subscription to your magazine would be a step in the right direction. Perhaps with your informational resources you could, as a service to your readers, provide me with a list of the permitted and "best" surf-casting spots on Long Island; particularly those relatively near Hempstead, as I am a Hofstra Law School Student who spends most of his time studying. (Except for the summer).

I look forward to receiving and reading your magazine. Very truly yours, Elliot Shuftman.

*Read the L.I.F. in its entirety, many spots are revealed during the course of the year, especially in "Strictly Casting".*

Gentlemen:

I took up surf fishing last year and without the help of the L.I.F. I would have had to spend many years on the beach to acquire the knowledge I now have. I could go on and on about L.I.F. but I would have to write a book, a great book.

Since I only bring home what fish my wife and I can eat and I don't have to bring home huge amounts of fish to prove myself, I would like to do something nice.

Please tell me how to get tags and where and how to put them on. I don't believe in waste, and I do believe in the preservation of nature. I have felt this way for a while and I think it is time I started to put my thoughts into action. Thank you, Edward Januszkiewicz

*I selfishly steal the thought that it was the L.I.F. that gave you your attitude of preservation and conservation. It's these kind of letters that makes me proud of being part of the L.I.F. Tags and information on tagging can be obtained from: The American Littoral Society, Sandy Hook, Highlands, N.J. 07732 Good Luck.*

Dear Rich:

Fred Guardineer's weekly piece is always interesting. Hardly a single issue of L.I.F. goes by that I don't learn something. However, the March 23rd issue contained a suggestion to which I strongly object.

It seems that Fred Advocates ground pollution, (Bad form for L.I.F.), by suggesting that we throw cans on the beach instead of throwing glass bottles. Is he perhaps more worried about his buggy tires than the environment? Besides, cans, as they disintegrate, also form sharp edges that can cut just as easily as glass. Tetanus from a can is no less painful than that from a bottle.

Dammit, the fact is that neither should be there in the first place!

You can bet that the seagulls didn't leave the cans there. Man did. Man the bather and man the fisherman.

As Jim O'Gallaher all too painfully points out in that same issue, "Surf pounders" walk away empty handed more frequently than any other fisherman. O.K., that's part of the beach fisherman's life. But his hands don't have to be empty. If he can't have the satisfaction of knowing he's "doing something" by carrying some of the junk off the beach. We all know how many cans, bottles, and paper is out there. Just looking at it doesn't help. Pick it up. There is usually a barrel or other receptical around. If not, find a trash container on the way home, there must be one before you hit the expressway.

Don't think of it as "cleaning up after the other guy" either. There's not one of us who hasn't contributed to the mess at one time or another.

Those aluminum cans can be recycled, you know. Save them or give them to a recycling drive in your area. Or, recycle them yourself.

They're worth ten cents ($.10) a pound and the beaches are loaded with them. I collect them and turn them over to the Hudson River Fisherman's Association who run their own drives here in North Jersey in cooperation with Reynolds Aluminum. (Fishing clubs take note).

So, you see, none of us have to walk off the beach empty handed. If we don't have fish to carry, we can always remove some of the mess made by other fishermen and ourselves. We're all too quick to complain about ground pollution. Now let's do something about it.

Just think, if we all carry our own cans and bottles off the beach as well as some we find there, sooner or later that beach is going to be as clean as it deserves to be. Sincerely, G. Robert Gomber.

*I can assure you, Fred feels as strongly as the rest of us when it comes to our environment. I'm sure what he meant was as an alternative, or the lesser of two evils for those who must litter. He should have wrote it that way instead of taking it for granted that it would have been understood.*

*I thank you for your letter, it reflects my thinking and what I hope will be the thinking of all sportsmen in the near future.*

Dear Rich;

Enclosed is the entry blank for a 2 lb. 7 oz. flounder caught today, March 25, 1972. I would like to submit this application for next week's contest.

In your note you suggest I fill out a record book application, is that the same as the contest application? Thank you, Don Siano, Yonkers

*The record book application, although very similar, is not the same as the fishing contest application. The record book application must be filled out in its entirety, plus samples of line and leader must accompany the application.*

Gentlemen:

I have just read my March 16th copy of the Long Island Fisherman, and I must say congratulations to both Vlad Evanoff and Dick Alley. This issue of the LIF really hit the nail on the head.

"Will Automation Ruin Fishing?" was found to be an interesting and altogether too true critique of modern day fishing. It is unfortuante that few will do more than just read this article.

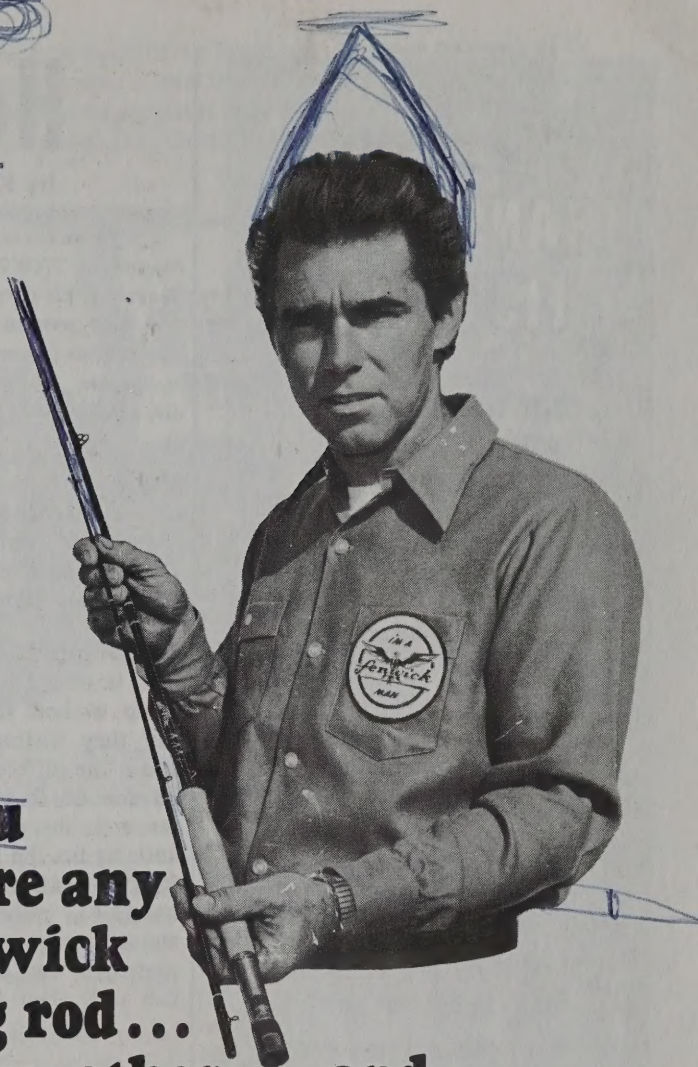
"The Ruination of a Beautiful Day," by Dick Alley, covers perhaps the most controversial environment-related topic today. With a power crisis imenent, it is ironic that more power plants must be built; it is even sadder that destruction of such great magnitude will accompany these facilities because the people responsible for their planning will not listen. I was at least relieved to hear that the Indian Point No. 2 facility was closed by the State.

I have written an article concerning power plants and their total environmental and socialogical impact; if you are interested, I will be happy to send it to you.

Keep up the good work! Sincerely, Kenneth J. Herman, Jamaica, N.Y.

*I'm interested in your article; send it in.*

**Trustee Bernie Schu presents a gag award to club member Barry Siegel at the River Bay Sportsmen's Club's Annual Dinner.**

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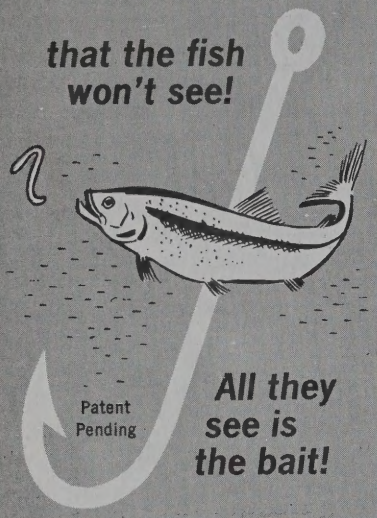

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# How do fish see?

by KJELL ENGSTROEM

*The following article is reproduced from the annual "TIGHT LINES," published by the Swedish tackle firm of ABU. It is reproduced with their permission. No article that I have read on fish vision is as clear and enlightening as this one. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did. AL REINFELDER*

**The author is a director of the Swedish Museum of Natural History. Prior to 1965 he was assistant professor in zoology at Stockholm University. This special Tight Lines summarizes the thesis he prepared for his doctorship in 1963.**

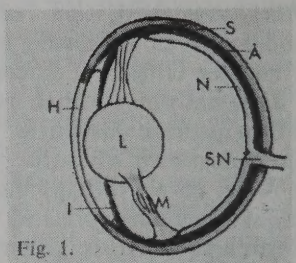
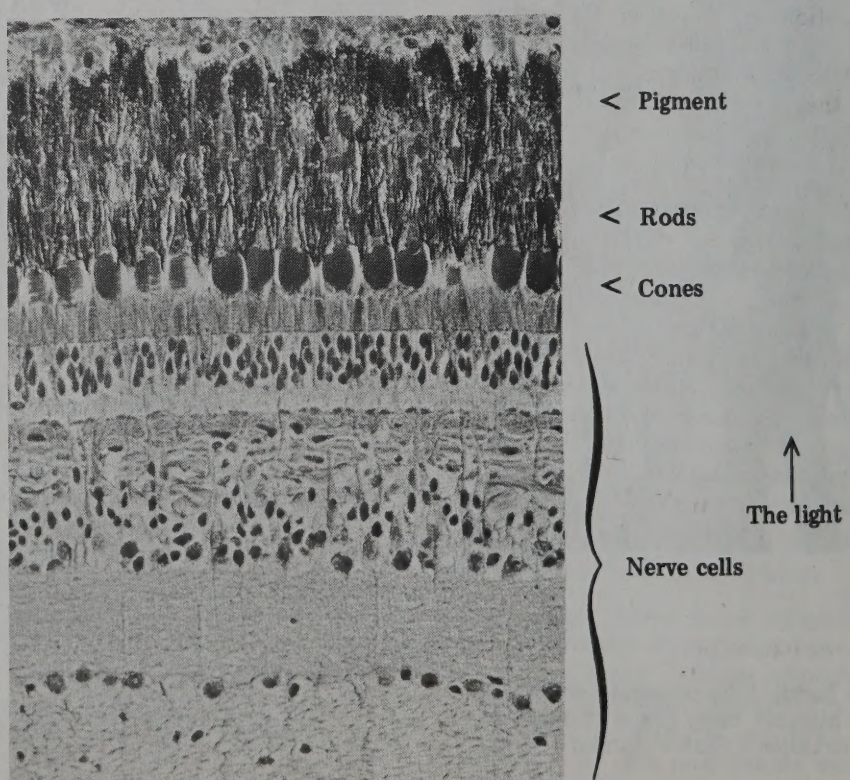


Fig. 1.
Diagram of a fish eye

■ A subject fishermen frequently discuss is how much fish really see. How sharp is their vision and which colours can they distinguish? Is all that fuss about the different colours and shades of lures more to give the fishermen confidence in them, or to make them more enticing for the fish? It is quite difficult to give a definitive answer to all these questions. Fish, like other groups of animals, make special adaptations to their particular way of life. Lively predatory fish seek their food inshore, in shallow water or in moderate depths where light conditions are usually good. Other fish stick pretty close to the bottom where the light is poor. Deep sea fish live in the great depths of the oceans where there is hardly any light at all. The variations are endless, and the sight of a fish is generally adapted to the particular habits of its given species.

A fish eye, like our own, is basically the same as the lens of a camera (figure 1). Inside the transparent cornea (H) is the coloured iris (I) surrounding the pupil—

**Fig. 2. Transverse section through the retina of a vendace (Coregonus albula) (500 x).**



ke the disphragm of a camera. The lens f a fish (L) is spherical, providing it ith the greatest possible refractive power. human's lens is more compressed. A sh eye judges distances the same way a amera is focused – by moving the rigid ns back and forth, in this case with a tiny uscle. (Human eyes judge distance by hanging the shape of the lens).

In a camera the image is recorded on ilm; in the eye, on the retina (N). The etina contains the optic cells that are ensitive to light as well as the nerves hat transmit the images from the optic ells and continue on to the optic nerve SN). The retina also contains a tissue of ark pigmentation which can move. In trong light it moves forward and surrounds he optic cells with a protective dark veil; n poor light conditions the tissue retracts rom the cells. Outside the retina there is very dark membrane (A) with many iny blood vessels which furnish the eye vith nourishment and oxygen. Farthest ut is the strong protective membrane, he white of the eye (S).

Like other vertebrates, fish have oth rod and cone shaped optic cells. The rods are most sensitive to light, even o very small quantities of light, but can liscern objects only in various tones on he grey scale. The cones, on the other and, cannot pick up the weakest rays of light and are useless for night vision, ut the cones under good light conditions re responsible for the sense of colour ision.

Fish which are active in daylight, r live in shallow water, have a greater oncentration of cones in the retina. Conversely, and exclusively, deep sea fish ave in fact no cones in their retinas. Instead they have several layers of rods, so many that they can detect the weakest rays of light in the very depths of the sea.

In a more detailed examination of the retina under a microscope, one actually finds more than two types of optic cells. There are rods and cones, to be sure, but also a variety of cones. Most obviously, they differ in size, but also in formation. Some are relatively small, some longer, while others are double cones (figure 2). Some fish, in fact, even have triple and quadruple cones. These different types of cones can be seen in a cross section of the retina, much the same way one would look down on a freshly cut lawn.

One discovers that the cones are not distributed hit-and-miss, but are spread out in easy-to-recognize patterns. The reason the patterns are easy to distinguish is that the cones not only look different, but also function differently. They vary according to how sensitive they are to strong or weak light, or to various colours. Thus the most acute vision is in species that have the different kinds of cones spread as evenly as possible over the surface of the retina.

A study of the patterns in the retina tells quite a bit about the living habits of a fish. Active daytime predatory fish have very symmetrical patterns (figure 3). Double and single cones are often placed in squares, with the double cones forming the sides small single cones the corners, and a large single cone in the centre. The pattern of a pike is even more complicated, but extremely symmetrical. The advantage of these very precise patterns is that any image in front of the retina passes so many different kinds of optic cells that each, in its own way, analyses the movements, shape and colour of an object.

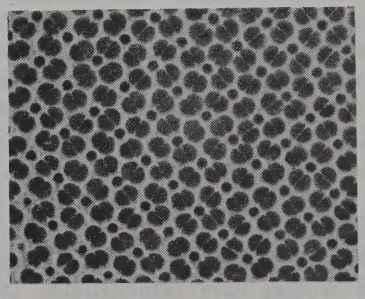


**Fig. 3. The cone mosaic of the Perch (Perca fluvia tilis) Figs. 3-6: 400 x.**

Every fish has a basic pattern typical for its species; the retina may have lined, square, or more complicated patterns. The degree of sophistication of the pattern depends on the living habit of the species. Perch, for example, have perfect squares (figure 3) whilst Ruffe, a smaller member of the perch family which lives a quieter life closer to the bottom, has a more irregular pattern. Other species which do not rely so much on their sight as on other factors, such as chemical nerves in the Barbel, e.g. Five-bearded Rockling and Sole, have patterns in nearly total disarray over the greater part of the retina (figure 4).

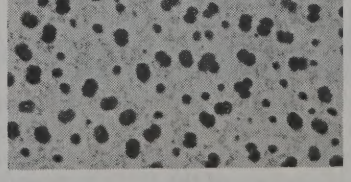


**Fig. 4. The disolved cone mosaic of the Sole (Solea solea)**

Some fish, such as small Herring and whitefish, have a distinct way to seek their prey. Both, with their protruding lower jaws, can snap up tiny creatures such as water bugs and insect larva. When they look directly forward or up, the

*Continued On Page 8*

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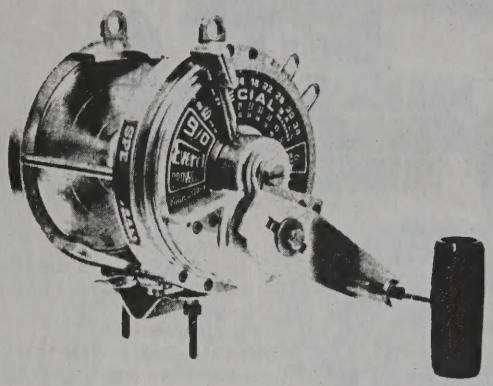

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image goes to the most remote or lower portion of the retina where the optic cells are arranged in symmetrical square patterns, the patterns of predatory fish (figure 5). The rest of the retina, which

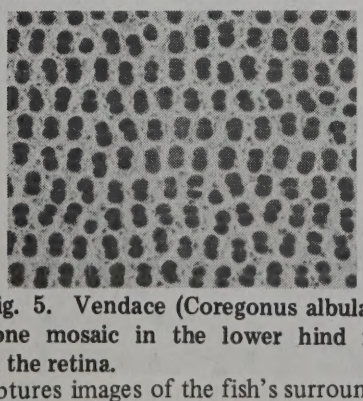

**Fig. 5. Vendace (Coregonus albula), the cone mosaic in the lower hind region in the retina.**

captures images of the fish's surroundings or discovers possible enemies, is arranged with cells in more simple patterns (figure 6). It doesn't take as sharp a vision to detect the movements of a larger predatory fish as it does to catch a bug.

It is interesting to note that the analysis of the optic cells and their patterns of the retina of species most popular with sports fishermen, such as Salmon, Trout, Pike, and Perch all have exactly the same patterns – patterns with good capacity to distinguish movements.

What about the fish's capacity to distinguish between colours? Training and experiments have shown that most fish that are active in daylight can detect variations of colour. A male stickleback in spawning season, for example, has a red stomach and defends his area against other males by attacking and chasing them away. An otherwise faithful model of a stickleback without a red stomach provokes no reaction, but a cruder model or even a small bit of metal does, as long as its underside is red.

Many similar experiments and physiological studies have demonstrated that fish normally equipped with cones in their retina can judge colours about as well as a human. Deep sea fish, whose retina have only rods, cannot make the same distinctions.

But the qualities of the optic cells alone are not decisive as to what colours fish can see. The colour is nothing more than that quantity of light reflected from the surface of an object. The deeper the object is in the water, the more the shades of red, yellow, and green disappear, and the colours change. A red object, for example, is red only so long as the light contains the red part of the spectrum. If the red in the spectrum disappear, that coloured part of the object becomes dark grey. It is about the same principle a when blue-white road signs turn black an white in the yellow rays of the vapo street lights. These street lights have n blue in their spectrum to reflect from th signs.

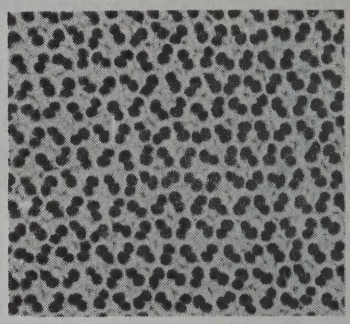

**Fig. 6. Vendace, the anterior region o the retina.**

Just a few meters under water, muc of the red-yellow colour scale disappear At greater depths, only the blue scal remains. Eels have shown an interestin adjustment to this difference in lightin conditions. As a yellow eel in fresh wate the species has its greatest sensitivity t light in the same colours of the spectrur as other fresh water fish, in the yellow green range. But in a migrating silver ee the greatest sensitivity is to blue-gree light, in about the same range as salt wate eels. The change reflects an adjustmen to the different light conditions the ee meets as it heads for deeper water durin migration.

All these aspects explain why it i so difficult to give an iron-clad answe to the question of which colours a fish ca perceive. Any answer must be based o two conditions: the arrangement of th optic cells in the retina, and the depth o water the fish is in – or more precisely the depth at which various colours can b seen at all.

Despite the complications we hav been able to arrive at some quite definit conclusions. To summarize, it can b safely stated that any fish can see wel near the surface of the water, and that th species sports fishermen are most likel to angle for, can distinguish between th colours of the lures. The deeper the fish ing, the less significant the colour of th lure becomes. Just how quickly tha significance disappears depends on th quality of the water, the time of day, et

But we should also bear in min that sight is not actually a quality of th eye; rather it depends on the brain. A

*Continued On Page 14*

# Selection of saltwater fly fishing tackle

■ It is easier than most would-be fly fishermen can imagine. First, let's consider the fish and area where they will be caught.

Striped bass and bluefish are perfect. Offering a test of skill, plenty of action and fortunately for us, they are in great abundance on the North and South shore of Long Island. Fly casting from a boat or shore can be accomplished with the same outfit, so we are going to put together a rod, reel, line and leader suitable for the majority of salt water fishing conditions which exist in our area.

The rod we choose is determined by the line, since with fly casting tackle the fly is almost weightless. It is the weight of a fly line which causes the rod to bend and produce power to cast the line, leader and fly. With spinning and conventional tackle, it is just the opposite. The lure or lead sinker has weight. This weight, during the casting motion, causes the rod to bend and produce the power to cast. The primary difference of course, is that in the case of spinning and conventional tackle, the weight is concentrated in a small object, while the weight in a fly line is extended over the first 30 feet of the line. The tape is then followed by 65 feet of level line, providing a total length of 95 feet. This 30" taper is very similar in design to a bull whip. This at the front end (tippet) and thick at the back end.

Envision a bull whip in use and you will understand exactly how a tapered fly line works as it travels through the air. The taper, and remember that this is where the weight is built in, carries the driving energy supplied by the rod power and your casting motion through its length, on to the leader and finally to the fly, causing the fly to turn over and land on the water.

While there are different designs of fly line tapers, salt water fly fishing for striped bass and bluefish requires only one design, the weight forward (wf) line. This is not to be confused with the salt water taper which has a shorter taper than a weight forward fly line and used for special purposes not related to our fish or fishing conditions.

What weight and type fly line? A No. 10 or 11 weight forward floating model will work best. We choose this weight and type because it will cast the large wind resistant flies and achieve maximum casting distance with the least amount of effort. The floating line is selected because it will cover the majority of our fishing situations which are on or near the surface, casting poppers or streamers.

Now that we have established which line to use, the choice of the rod is easy. A 9 ft. fiberglass rod is the choice. This length will cast a No. 10 or 11 line effectively and handle bluefish and striped bass with authority. The best advice in choosing a particular brand is to rely on a reputable manufacturer. There are endless brands and price ranges. With the higher price rods, there is a distinct assurance of quality, performance and quality. However, in the less expensive models - $12-$18 category, only certain brands can be relied on. To name a few, they are, Berkley, Garcia and Shakespeare. Such a rod is fine for the beginner who wishes to try salt water fly fishing and economics is a factor. You'll not find the best specie cork or hgihly corrosion resistant hardware, such as reel seats, guides and ferrules, but the correct rod design will be there and this is of primary importance. Should you wish to buy a first class (higher priced) rod, the price range will be from $40-$80. In this category, a few of the most popular brands are Fenwick, Garcia and Scientific Anglers. These rods will offer optimum design, highly corrosion resistant, and cosmetics commensurate with the price.

Before selecting our fly reel, I would like to add one further thought on the rods and fly line. Any freshwater fly fisherman owning an 8 ft. or 8½ ft. fly rod matched up with a number 8 or 9 weight forward line, can use this outfit on stripers and bluefish in salt water. Such an outfit has its limitations, but on the other hand, the angler can achieve the experience of salt water fly fishing

*Continued On Page 15*

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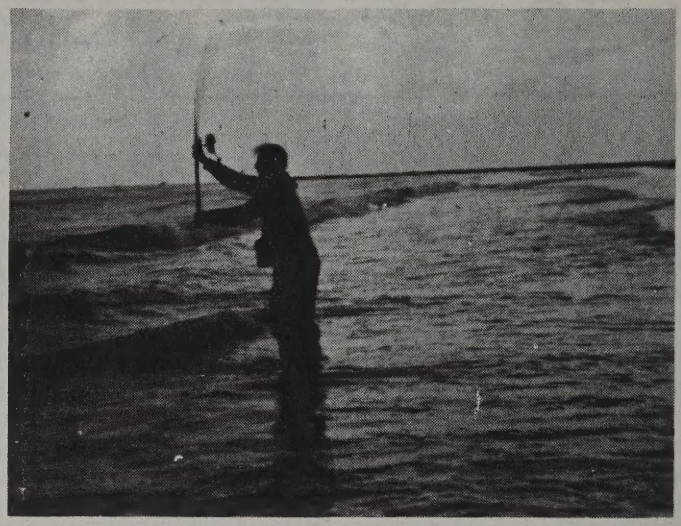
# Strictly Casting —— *by Vince Guaglianone*



## —— At Bayville In The Springtime ——

■ A long time it was like the last line of wilderness surviving at Bayville. The 'thin line' wasn't just the pebble-shore's edge. A restaurant on it here, a pile of garbage on the edge there took care of that. The thin line remaining was more an atmosphere; a touch as from the melifluent song of a springtime bird in the tall trees. The line broadened in the spread of mist on a dark still day; and then a school of 2-pound mackerel - up to 3 lbs. in 1970; a sudden burst of stripers socking Rebels and even small Creek Chub poppers along the cement wall at Centre Island in early May. But stripers also, some years up to 30 pounds in April at Bayville; if you knew where. And when. And how.

This last part of course, in true shore-fisherman tradition, was kept secret. Obvious were schoolies breaking out after the mackerel; or beached by bottom casters on sandworms by that lean rockpile into the Sound at Centre Island: where Bayville Avenue ends at the gateway to private domains. But teen - and 20 - and a 30 pounder in clean, clear, still shallow water: THAT was secret; though just across the street.

One of the rewards of surf fishing is all the friends you make on the beaches. Sometimes, you don't even learn for two years the name of the good fellow that you've been running into, around that north-shore cove's corner; again in a parking field in the night on the south shore; and here he is again one morning, lying exhausted on wet sand beside a boulder. I treasure these meetings on the shores as much as I do wild nature; even though I fear that I shall soon catch hell from friends, for giving out more on where to go shore fishing. My beach comrades may not understand or, more likely, they won't believe why I do this. As I said before, it's senseless to gain a few extra years by keeping things secret. My feeling is, go for broke! - If enough people get to love the shores, maybe then the last shores will be saved by the voice and the vote-fist of an aroused population. So, now that the 'progress-people' are set on the bridge from Oyster Bay to Rye across the Sound, with the usual forecast of "minimal ecological damage": how much longer will Bayville's West Harbor yield to casters - amid April! - those lunker bass?

Brother casters, get out to West Harbor and try it these last years. It's not a multi-spot stretch of coast like Narragansett in Rhode Island, so don't fight over this little shore of Bayville. Never fight over any shoreline: Fight FOR the shores together . . .

Or, at the very least, I recommend the following '7 C's for casters':

1. Conservation: to keep the remnant coastline wild and free.
2. Courtesy: toward other fishermen who got there ahead of you.
3. Control: of yourself, in order to give priority to number 2, above.
4. Care: for others, for wild nature, and for what's called 'private property'. Care is the motive for having self-control.
5. Challenge: remember that at the best of shores, fishing remains a challenge and there's no 'sure thing' anywhere.

6. Chance: take a chance - you, not the other guy - and try being different by caring; having courtesy; self-control; and being ecology-minded even while fishing.

7. Casting: all the above to keep this sport alive, and enjoy it.

Now there's a good chance that this, so far, mild winter will give us an early season unless there's a sudden cold spell. (Remember the incredible, cold blizzard last year, April 6-7; 63 miles per hour wind? Bad stuff. Set back the springtime casting.) But particularly on the north shore an early season pertains to winter hold-over bass as well as migrants. It's pretty certain that the Sound, and such arms of it as Oyster Bay have stripers residing through winter on the bottom. There's also each year a minor run of alewives early into Bayville's back waters; nothing like Narragansett's alewife runs, but enough to bring in a few lunker bass in April. So if for some ungodly reason you can't taste the greatness of Rhode Island this month, at least try a few casts in Bayville.

Take a good look at the road map. In April through May, you more surely want Bayville's eastern part: Centre Island. If these will be your first trips give yourself extra time to learn the winding roads north of Northern Blvd. (25A) . . . After parking on the street outside the private roadway, the big water you see northward is the Sound. Before May, look south. That little basin of lake-like water across the street, beyond the weeping willows, is West Harbor - lunker water! Until the terns arrive around May 1-5, when the bass will have left Bayville backwaters for the Sound, usually.

The preferred part of West Harbor is its southern shore. You walk around to it, trying some casts along the reedy way. The 5½" Rebel floater, or the 4" Rebel with plated hooks. Don't splash into the water. Wade quietly.

I use a light but sturdy 8-foot rod in the springtime, a Fenwick blank that plays only at it's tip - last two feet. The reel is a cheap, strong 420 Berkley, believe it or not; which is excellent for north shore spring-fishing. With 14-lb. test line, the unfailing bail, gears and drag of this reel have seen good service.

1968, '69 and '70 were good years at West Harbor in April. Some 30's were slid ashore, in April. In 1971, to my knowledge only on May 2 (it was a cold long winter and a late season) only one real fish was taken (not by me) a 21-pounder on a Rebel. As usual it was high water, and at dusk. There was also a Solunar Major feeding period at this time (but dusk of course is a regular feeding period anyway) and the moon was in the first quarter; and the day was dark, raining lightly. There were some spearing in the water . . . Also schoolies were taken that day.

On April 17 last year, I parked beside the willows and saw a casting crowd near sundown, all the right conditions - they got skunked. (A crowd on this shore is two fishermen . . . Please never let it reach beyond five! Remember the 7 C's) But there was no bait in the water, not that day nor through all last April. Very unusual. A late season.

A mild SW is ok, and a SE. But a strong southerly wind clouds this water and that's bad. Sunrise should also pay off here. Never did anything here under north winds; and I've not yet hit it here at night.

Later on, in May, only schoolies seem to inhabit this little cove of Oyster Bay, and they will take small poppers and also give sport to fly-rodders.

But after April the macks are in front, along Centre Island Beach and the May fishing is hot all along the big beach and all through your wading eastward toward Rocky Point. Anytime of the day is good for the Sound's Centre Island Beach. But generally high water here too is best. If you wade eastward along the cement wall, watch the rocks underfoot for the first half-mile (it seems). After that, it's clear sand, except for a hole or two covered with grass. You start casting from your first step into the water; Big boulders and rips make all the promises along the way. Rebels; small Kastmasters; Alou III, black or amber; the Eelet; the shorty Hopkins. Take your pick . . . I know some larger fish are caught along here, but I've never seen above teen-sized here and most I've seen are schoolies which will also hit small poppers in May. Many cast small spoons just for the macks.

Last year, unforutnately, there were neither the usual mackerel nor the sand eels at Bayville. Most of the stripers were caught wading toward Rocky Point and far beyond the boulders that you can see from where you park the car. If you wade, there's no dry land behind you to step back on. Behind all your wading is private property, walled, fenced, and often dog-watched. So you definitely need a chain to carry your fish if you're not a releaser like a lot of the Bayville regulars; and you need to know how to grab a

*Continued On Page 14*

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BY FRED GUARDINEER

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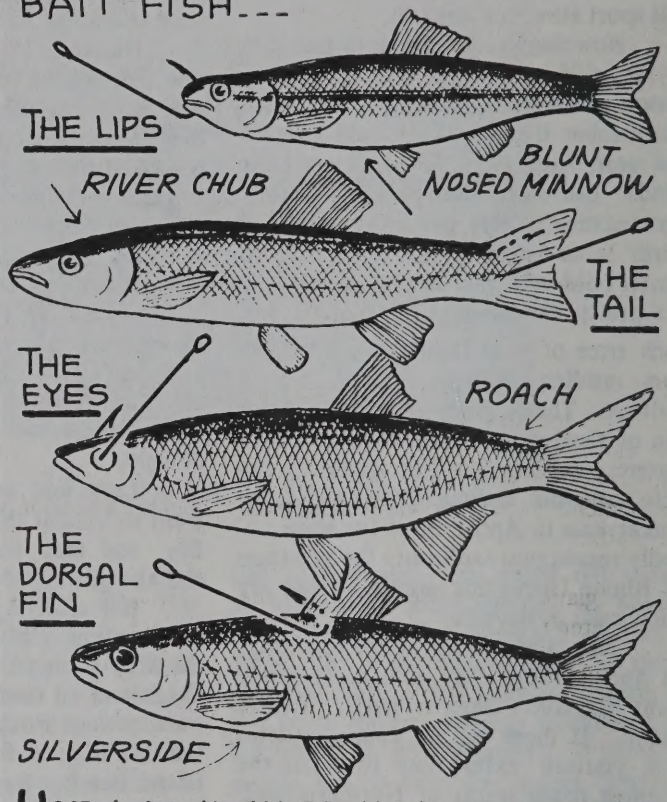


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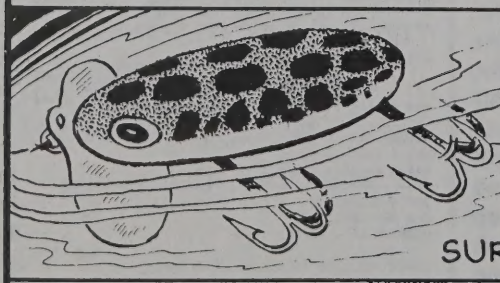

**WHEN FISH WON'T STRIKE** AT YOUR SURFACE LURE - TRY A TAILER - AN UNDERWATER LURE TIED SO IT TRAILS JUST BENEATH THE SURFACE.

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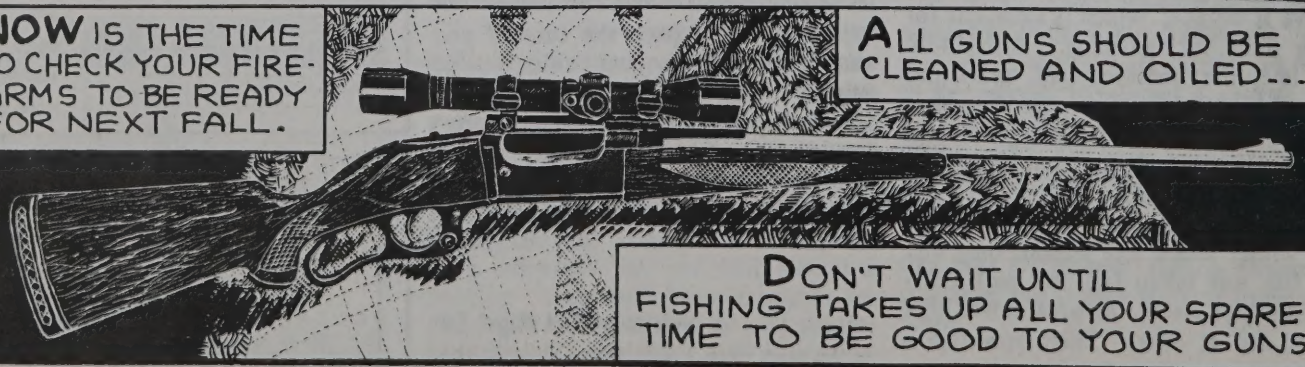
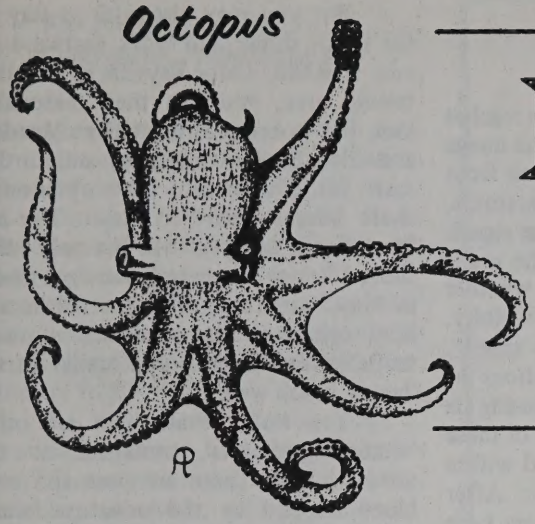


DON'T WAIT UNTIL FISHING TAKES UP ALL YOUR SPARE TIME TO BE GOOD TO YOUR GUNS.




# KNOW YOUR FISH!

by TONY DI FEDE

There are many spine-tingling sea stories about this spineless creature of the sea. Many accounts describe terrible armed monsters reaching out of the sea and snatching sailors or whole ships from the surface. It's no wonder they were given the name Devilfish, along with certain giant rays. We all know the stories aren't true - - don't we? But there are still some common misconceptions about this much-maligned mollusk. However, before going into that, I would like to discuss some basic things about the Octopus.

Physically, there is nothing in the sea, that we know of, that looks like octopods (which includes the octopus and paper nautilus) and decopods (squid). We all know the difference between squid and octopus (squids have 10 arms and rather stiff arrowhead-shaped mantles and octopi have 8 arms and globular mantles) so I won't go into any detail on that. The paper nautilus has 8 arms and is very much like an octopus except that the mantle has a large petal-shaped appendage. There are many species of octopus and I couldn't possible do them justice in anything less than a book. So rather than giving you a lot of detail about one particular species, I'll keep it general and talk about them as a family.

MISCONCEPTION NO. 1: There is no such thing (at least during recorded history) as a giant octopus. They generally average about one or two feet long (from tip to tip of opposite tenticles). The largest on record was found in Alaska; it was 16 feet long and had a 28 foot spread; the mantle was about one foot long and six inches in diameter. It could hardly devour a man, not to mention a ship. Even this size octopus would present no particular danger to an experienced diver.

MISCONCEPTION NO. 2: Each tenticle has two rows of suction discs on the underside. They are harmless. They don't suck blood, inject poison, eat away at flesh, or have any other nefarious use. They stick to things like little Johnnie's suction cup arrowheads. And the octopus has control over his suction discs. They simply provide a means for holding on to most anything. As a matter of fact, the manipulating ability of the octopus's tenticles is very surprising as you'll see when I go into feeding and other habits.

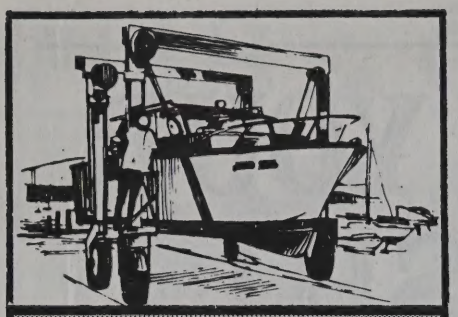
These shy little fellows are really very versatile; they can crawl, swim, move by "jet propulsion" or any combination of the three. They swim by moving their tenticles so the skirt-like portion of the mantle undulates. Jet propulsion is accomplished by sucking water into the mantle and forcing it out the siphon. They can move quite rapidly in this way, going about 3 to 6 feet per jet of water. Larger octopi develop enough pressure to send a fairly heavy stream of water more than 8 feet in the air. That's much better than most super-deluxe water pistols!

Octopi vary in color and in their ability to assume the color of their surroundings. Some species can change so quickly it is called blushing. This is a major protective device; they have no skeleton, shell or scales to protect them. So they must rely on color change, jet propulsion, the ability to ooze into narrow crevices and holes, and their ink screen for protection. The ink screen is squirted out when the octopus is being chased or attacked. It distracts the preitor and blocks its vision so the octopus can dart to the safety of the bottom. The ink isn't shot out in the shape of an octopus nor does it stun fish. Some authors say that the octopus uses its ink to locate other octopi, sort of like smoke signals, but I doubt it because they are known to have extremely good eyesight and a very good sense of smell and taste. Besides, they establish residences while in an area and are not as nomadic as fish. They tend to stay in reefs, bottom caves, under rocks, in crevices or any other protection they can find like shells, etc.

Their diet consists mainly of crabs scallop, clams, lobster, snails and other bottom dwellers as well as small fish and other octopus. Usually, when the octopus is feeding, it covers its prey and secrets a toxin that stuns or kills its prey. (This toxin is deadly in many cases to other sea life but would be no more than an irritant to humans unless a person was highly allergic to it.) The octopus's mouth is below the mantle and is equipped with a sharp, hard beak. In the case of scallops and clams, the octopus displays some of its abilities to manipulate its arms. As you may know, clams and scallops and other shellfish keep their shells open slightly for varying periods of time. Well, the octopus takes advantage of this by using one of its tenticles to place a small rock between the shells to prevent the clam from closing up. The octopus then reaches into the shell with no fear of being trapped or injured and proceeds to devour the clam.

At breeding time one of the males arms becomes hectocotylized. This means it becomes enlarged at the end. Males and females then pair off and occupy the same cave or crevice. When the male's arm is completely modified or enlarged (the arm tip becomes flat and shaped like a broad spear point) the tip is filled with ripe sperm cells. The male then places the netocotylized arm into the females mantle and deposits the sperm cells. Once this is done the male is evicted, never to return. As the female lays her eggs, she attaches them in bunches or festoons to the upper walls of her cave.

*Continued On Page 14*



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*Can Fish See*
*Continued From Page 8*

image appears only when the vision reaches the brain, and it registers when the image in the brain is combined with signals from other senses reporting on vibrations, smells, etc., in the water. Together all these signals contribute to a fish's image on the world around him, to his judgement whether there is a catch or an enemy in his vicinity.

So a sports fisherman, very simply, has to create as many temptations as possible for the fish without arousing its "enemy signals". And finally, all of these sense functions have to be placed within the contest of the species behavior. After a temporary abundance of a certain type of insect, for example, a fish is conditioned to react to whatever resembles that particular kind of food. At another time, the same bait would arouse no reaction at all, regardless of the fish's quality of vision. Sight, hearing and other senses are only a part, however important, of the fish's behavior which a successful angler has to be familiar with in order to outwit his catch. ■

*At Bayville In The Springtime*
*Continued From Page 11*

fish, remove the dangerous Rebel from its face, (schoolies are more of a problem than a lunker that you had to tire to get her in) and while holding your rod out in the water. You must take a Sportmate, or a needlenose pliars that can cut a hook in case you have that nasty experience in your hand, or worse . . .

Look for sand eels. Bass are easy to catch when sand eels and macks are in the water. I've no wind-preference for Centre-Island, the boulders and rips make so rich a shore - when there's sand eels. But last year, my superiors got bass anyway, without sand eels. (Only when I found those beauteous baitfishes at Stony Brook Channel, could I start catching bass last spring. That's the way it was with me.)

Of course, you should avoid trying to wade around Centre Island under a strong northerly wind . . .

In the springtime, Bayville and Cedar Beach are two very different kinds of shores - north and south - both reachable the same day, once you know the roads. When the tides are different for each shore, you can work a one-two punch to cover both shores the same day at the best tides. This particularly is for casters who reside from Nassau County westward to the city.

But you may also wish to stay on the north shore, and work eastward till you find bait. Using Bayville as an initial testing area, you can then reasonably look for working terns at Crab Meadow and then Sunken Meadow, and further east: Mt. Sinai Beach - three other north shore beaches good in May. The Mt. Sinai Beach last year was the only other shore I know of where casters got macks in May, with bass after the macks and sand eels present. But this move-on tactic is foolish until you really learn a 'home' beach well.

You know that there are other 'winter hold-overs', unnatural to the north shore. These are bass and even blues trapped by the unnatural warm effluent of power-station waters. Catching these fish doesn't count with me because I don't care to cooperate this way with "progress." I'd much rather see this thermal pollution problem solved; plus have the alewife runs of Long Island reinforced as Al Reinfelder once suggested. Then Long Island fishing might approach the richness of Rhode Island in the springtime.

But when you learn that 'power station bass' are starting to fan out along Crab Meadow and Makamah beaches, into the Sound, then you know that the Sound is warming; else the fish couldn't leave the unnatural effluent; so you know that the season is beginning . . . Of course, there's usually a real beginning in Little Neck Bay, often the last week of March. But I don't like my line to stink like hell after fishing. Stinks are what I go fishing to get away from. ■

*Know Your Fish*
*Continued From Page 13*

Then she positions herself below her brood of eggs with her arms curled up and around them, almost constantly cleaning them with her suction cups and keeping a circulation of water around the eggs with her siphon. The eggs hatch in about two months. During this time the female is devoted to caring for her brood of eggs and hardly ever leaves her nest to eat. The end of this ordeal finds her weak and smaller. Some die. The young are hatched as tiny adults and spend the first part of their life drifting with the current. Once grown large enough, they take up life on the bottom.

Octopus is considered (by many Europeans – and me) to be a very tasty food fish that can be eaten raw, marinated, boiled, salted or just about any way you like. ■

*Fly Fishing*
*Continued From Page 9*

without having to purchase a special outfit. Additionally, some fishermen find a 9 ft. saltwater fly rod and a No. 10 or 11 line too much for them to handle. Such a fisherman is much better off with an 8½ ft. rod matched up with a No.9 or 10 weight forward line. In either case, maximum effective casting distance will not be achieved nor will the rod have the authority to play big fish.

The fly reel in saltwater plays a far more important role than its freshwater counterpart which in the majority of fishing situations, acts as a storage house for line and counter balance on the rod. Salt water fly fishing requires the reel to be strong, rugged, corrosion resistant, and have a large line capacity. Adjustable drag is necessary. The reel must have a capacity to hold a No. 10 or 11 weight forward line plus at minimums of 50 yds. of 20 lb. monofilament or dacron. This additional line is called backing. The most popular size reel will hold a No. 11 line plus 100 yds. or slightly more of 20 lb. line. Dacron is most preferred line due to its low stretch, ruggedness and easy handling.

Saltwater fly reels can be the single action type with a dependable adjustable drag or the more elaborate model with a supersensative drag and non reversing handle. For our needs, a single action is more than sufficient and a good quality freshwater model is fine provided it has the capacity as previously outlined. If you don't own such a reel and wish to get full value for your dollar, the Pfluger Medalist No. 1498 is great. The price range is from $14-$17.

The taper or decreasing diameter of the fly line leader (monofilament) is important to insure proper presentation of the fly to the fish. In saltwater, however, the length and taper are not so critical as they are in freshwater. The answer is simple. In freshwater, the fly is a small, delicate imitation of an insect and must be presented in an exact natural fashion gently coming to rest on the water. As my good fishing companion, Al "The Starving" (so called during the fishless winter months) said, "In saltwater, you are fly fishing where there are no flies." Absolutely true, and therefore, the saltwater fly represents a baitfish which frequently will be most attractive to a bluefish or striper by splashing on the surface. Thus, the delicate presentation of a fly is not vital to insure success.

To construct the leader we start with three (3) or four (4) feet of 40 to 50 lb. hard or so called stiff monofilament. For the second section of leader, most saltwater fly fishermen are content to use 3 feet of 20 lb. monofilament to which they tie their fly.

I frequently use 4 feet of 50 lb. mono followed by three feet of 30 lb. and finally two feet of 20 lb. This will turn over the largest poppers or streamers and will work well for the majority of striped bass conditions. The exception being bluefish. Using the same leader, you must add three to four inches of wire to prevent the bluefish's sharp teeth from cutting the line.

Various knots, sinking fly lines and additional leader recommendations, proper tactics and fly selection is another topic which will be covered in another issue. For now, we have constructed a well thought-out, properly balanced saltwater combination, matched perfectly for striped bass and bluefish on Long Island. It's a world of fun and challenge. I hope you'll come to the bait. If in the meantime you have any questions which are not covered, please feel free to write me at the Long Island Fisherman. ■

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## Hudson River Report

FORT LEE, N.J.

Al Sarianso of Al & Jerry's Tackle Box reports that tommy cod and catfish fishing is excellent. The best bait is sandworm. Heavy sinkers (over 3 ounces) are a must due to the strong tides.

CROTON

The best striped bass fishing is taking place around Crawbuckie Beach. This report comes from Tony Morabito of Tony's Bait & Tackle. Bass up to 6 lbs. are being taken on bloodworm baits. The best catches are being made at night. White perch fishing is excellent at Crawbuckie also. Perch up to 1½ lbs. are being caught. Richie Ferris of the Croton Bait & Tackle Shop reports good striped bass action at Crawbuckie Beach. Light surf poles are the order of the day. Bloodworm baits fished at night are best.

VERPLANCK

Ace and Charlie's Tackle Shop reports some good striper activity at Oscawanna Beach. This beach is at the end of Old Furnace Dock Road. Bass up to 4 lbs. are being caught on bloodworm baits.

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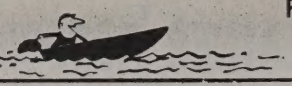

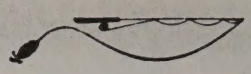

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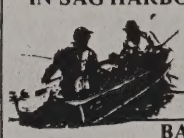

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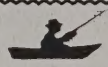

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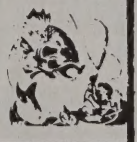

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# North Shore Reports

### COLD SPRING HARBOR

Les Fyfe of Vets Fishing Station reported that flounders are in all along beach areas. Fish from a ½ to ¾'s of a pound are there to be caught. Due to poor weather conditions, there's a shortage of anglers.

### NORTHPORT

Artie Levine of Chainlocker Bait & Tackle reported that flounders up to 1¾ lbs. are being caught off of the Town Dock at Northport Village. Fishing there is quite good as the youngsters of Northport are all catching fish.

### SMITHTOWN

George Pankovein of Beacon on the Sound reported that flounders are starting to bite locally. The best spots are located along the Nissequogue River. The flounders that are being caught are a bit thin, but they are providing good action. "The season finally started."

### PORT JEFFERSON

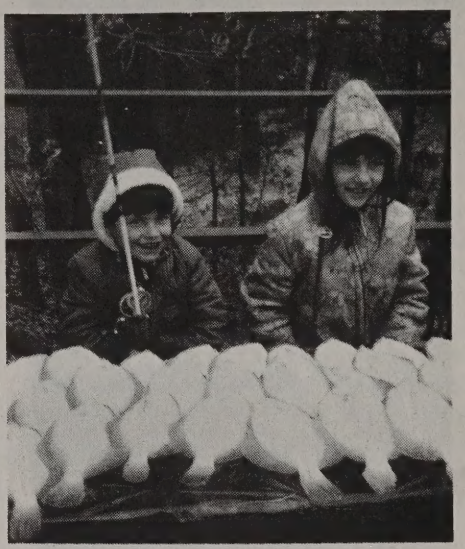
Angelo Caraftis of the Caraftis Fishing Station reported that flounder fishing is best along bay areas. Setauket and Conscience Bay are producing the best catches. Flounders from 1 to 1½ pounds are being caught on worms, mussels and mussel chum. Further east, at Rocky Point, flounder fishing is very good and flounders up to 2½ pounds are being caught there.

### MOUNT SINAI

Ralph Davenport of Ralph's Fishing Station reported that flounder fishing along Mount Sinai Harbor is your best bet locally. Last weekend a few flounders were caught off of Cedar Beach, however, flounder fishing is just getting started there. Mussel and worm baits are doing the trick and flatties up to 1¼ lbs. have been caught thus far.

### NEW SUFFOLK

Sal Loria of Captain Marty's Fishing Station reported that flounders up to 2¾ lbs. are now located at the South Race. Lou Bosso of Staten Island bagged 67 fish there and they went to 2 lbs. Marty Munch of Little Village and Artie Wanner of Ronkonkoma caught 50 flounders there. Cliff of N.Y.C. fished the deep waters of the South Race last Sunday and caught 45 flounders up to 2¾ lbs. All the above action was on both worm and mussel baits.



**The photo shows Perry and Kenny Yerves. of Hauppauge, helping their father John with these nice flounders caught at Heckscher weighing up to 1½ lbs.**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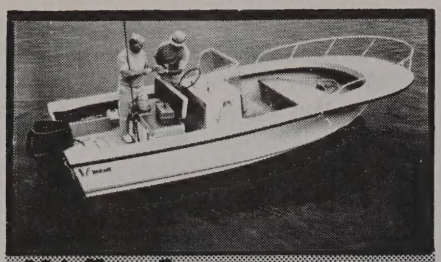
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# North Shore

SOUTHOLD-ORIENT POINT

Peter Lieblein of the Port of Egypt Fishing Station reported that the flounders are in and plenty of fish are being taken. Last Saturday, Pete, Alfred and Allen Holmes of Brooklyn were high hooks for the area. They caught 96 flounders up to 1½ lbs. at the South Ferry on mussels. Sid and Steven Hirsch of Forest Hills bagged 55 flounders up to 1½ lbs. by Buoy 17 of Jessups Neck. There is very good fishing for those who try.

# South Shore Reports

MONTAUK

Fred Shay of the East Lake Fishing Station reported good flounder fishing over the weekend. There were many 2 lb. flatties taken in the lake over the weekend. Saturday proved to be the best day.

Capt. Les Behan, skipper of the "Peconic Queen," reports fair codfishing. "Wednesday was out best day during the week. On Saturday, codfishing was excellent off of Block Island. We have been fishing the Cartwright Grounds, Sharks Ledge and Block Island. Some pollack are mixed in with the cod."

The "Hel-Cat," skippered by Capt. Brad Glas, will start sailing for the local cod fishing grounds this coming weekend. There are some repairs being done on the docks alongside the Hel-Cat, but there is ample parking available for everyone. You can't miss the Hel-Cat as it's the only twin hulled open boat at Montauk.

SAG HARBOR

Capt. Clark Bellows, Sr., skipper of the "Capt. Clark II," reports excellent flounder fishing in Gardiner's Bay around the Cedar Point area. The South Ferry grounds has flounders up to 2 pounds Mussels and worms are best in the bait department.

Dan McLane of the Bayview Tackle & Bait reported that Sam Francisco and Bill Joyce of Bergenfield, N.J. caught 27 flounders on Friday. The top weight was 2 lbs. 10 ozs. Tom Newman and party of Great Neck, N.Y. had themselves 30 flatties. The weekend was good and the best areas were South Ferry and Cedar Point. Mussels and mussel chum was best in the bait department.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Clark Bellows, Jr., skipper of the "Capt. Clark," reports the Peconics are coming along nicely in the flounder fishing department. South Jamesport is a hotspot right now, with flatties in the 1 to 2 lb. range. Irving Semels and friend of Brooklyn caught over 40 flounders on Thursday. These anglers used worm and mussel baits.

MASTIC

Ronnie Keenan of Keenan's Fishing Station reported that fishing was good during the week and on Saturday 60 yo 70 fish were being averaged per boat. The fish ranged from ¾'s to 1 pound and the action took place at Buoy 17. Mussels are doing the best job on the flatties.

**We have been reporting good flounder fishing off of Heckscher State Park so take a look at the photo above. 145 flounders were caught by the happy anglers shown (left to right) - Adolf Hoercher, Paul Hoercher and Jim Mac Pherson. All these flounders were caught on bloodworms and clams. Photo courtesy of the South Bay Fishing Station.**

MORICHES

Pat Cerullo of the Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station reported that Sunday afternoon paid off with 75 to 100 flounders for anyone fishing Buoy 27 to the Brown House. Wednesday was the best day during the week, with fair catches Thursday through Saturday. Worms and mussel chum were on the menu for the flatties.

CAPTREE

Capt. Bobby Joseph, skipper of the "Capt. Joseph IV," reports that the flounder fishing is excellent in the bay. "We have been fishing between Sayville and Cherry Grove and having good results. Some of my fares are catching 40 to 50 flounders ranging in weight from a ½ to 2 lbs."

SEAFORD

Dell's Fishing Station reported that the flounder fishing is excellent. Mike and Kenny Gromwaldt of Maspeth caught 48 flatties up to 1½ lbs. These anglers had many throwbacks. Ken Smelcher and John Starke of Massapequa had 14 keepers on bloodworm baits. Fred Rudden and Nick Nickelson of Hicksville caught 25 good sized flounders while fishing east of the 2nd drawbridge. Lo

FREEPORT

Capt. Richie Kessinger, skipper of the "Star Stream," reports that codfishing has been off for the last week or so. "We get a few cod at the open bottom area and pick a few off the wrecks.

# N.Y. Bight

*by GREG BEACHER*

ATLANTIC BEACH

Leon Miller of Henning's Fishing Station reported that cod are still active from one to three miles south of East Rockaway Jetty. Action there is fair as the boats that are fishing there are picking away at cod. Joe Gurascio and Pat Rivolo of the Green Bus Line of Rockaway fished 1¼ miles south of the Jetty last Friday. They boated two cod which weighed in at 16 and 18 lbs. but dropped five other cod in about the same weight range.

Flounder fishing throughout the Atlantic Beach area can be described as fair. Thomas Tai, of Far Rockaway, fished Woodmere Channel last Friday morning and caught 15 nice flounders. In the afternoon, during slack water, Tai fished at the East Rockaway Jetty. There he caught 11 more flounders up to 1½ lbs. on worm and mussel baits. Joe Ambrico and Henry Hockstein, of the Arverne Fishing Club, fished at the East Rockaway Inlet last Saturday. They each caught a ½ bushel of flounders from a ½ to 1 pound. They fished at Buoy 10 of the Inlet. Capt. Walter Spect's party boat "Margaret," with four anglers on board last Saturday, returned to port with a full bushel of flounders which they caught at the Inlet.

Your best bet for flounder action is during slack water or a light running tide at the East Rockaway Inlet. At other times a good bet is off of and along the private docks east of the Atlantic Beach Bridge. Post Lead, Garret Lead and Duck Point are areas also producing fair flounder action. Along all the areas mentioned, both mussel and worm baits are working equally well.

JAMAICA BAY

John Brando of Cross Bay Rod & Gun reported that Silver Hole is still your best bet for flounders in Jamaica Bay. These flatties are getting larger and flounders up to 1½ lbs. are being caught at a fair pace. At the North and South Broad Channel Bridges, flounders are active, however, the South Channelbridge is producing better action. Both worm and mussel baits are working equally well throughout Jamaica Bay.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Party boats tile fishing at the Hudson Canyon took off right where they left off last year. Last Saturday, the Tampa IV and the Ranger IV, of Sheepshead Bay, returned to port loaded with tile fish. As both boats pulled into port, anglers needed help to lift their catches off. Anglers that caught three fish had a 60 lb. fish bag to haul home. Those that caught 5, 8 or 10 tile fish had their problems. Some of the sacks of fish weighted as much as 200 lbs.

Aboard the Tampa IV, Bob Kuntz of N.Y.C. caught five fish that included a 54½ lb. pool winning fish worth $310. Artie Minto of Brooklyn caught a 56 pounder to win a $160. pool. Artie also caught 6 other fish for the day. Vin Rosen of N.Y.C. bagged 11 tile fish, with the largest going 52 lbs. 11 ozs. Even Capt. Bill Ridings of the Tampa IV took his spot at the tail. The captain set the pace as he caught some 14 tile fish up to 46 lbs. During the trip, Capt. Ridings reported that there were some 400 tile fish taken. The next tile fish trips for the Tampa IV will be on April 5th, 7th and 8th.

Aboard the Ranger IV, Denny Wierck of the Atlantic Highlands, N.J. caught 11 tile fish, including a 51 pounder that won a $200. pool. Abe Brenner of Brooklyn bagged 7 fish. "Harry the bricklayer," also of Brooklyn, matched this catch with 7 tile fish. During the trip some 250 tile fish from 5 to 51 lbs. were boated on the Ranger IV. Capt. Mike Scarpati reported that this fishing couldn't be beat and more of the same fishing is expected for future trips to the Canyon. The next Hudson Canyon tile fishing trips for the Ranger IV will be on April 8th and 14th.

George Gnad of the Bay End Dock reported that flounders are starting to become active locally. Flounders up to a pound and a half are being caught along the flats of Plumb Beach, at Gerritsen Beach, and at the east and west side of Rockaway Jetty.

At the present time the action is fair. With a few warm days, the flounder fishing should switch into high gear.

Whiting fishing offshore at the B.A. Buoy and Lightship Ridge continues to produce fish at a good pace. Anglers are catching their share of whiting from a ½ to 3 lbs. It is expected that the present whiting run will last until the mackerel arrive at the end of this month. Presently the mackerel are located some 125 miles south, southeast of Manasquan. Commercial draggers are catching their share of fish there. It won't be long before these fish will start to move into our area.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny Killoran of Santo's Sport Shop reported that flounder action locally is fair. The action is taking place at Great Kills Park and the Great Kills Rock Jetty. Presently the rock jetty is your best spot around and the flatties are being caught on mussel and worm baits. There haven't been any bass catches reported for the Staten Island area. "Looking back to last year, we're two weeks late this year with our first bass catch. Maybe this weekend we'll have something to report."

SANDY HOOK

Art Giglio of Giglio's Bait & Tackle reported that flounder fishing is good throughout the Shrewsbury River. Flounder fishing is good along bay areas and piers from Seabright to Sandy Hook. Fish up to 1½ lbs. are being caught.

The surf temperature is now about 43 degrees and some striper action is starting. At Leonard Bay, some shorts were caught last weekend. No keepers were caught yet.

Party boats sailing from this area are still doing a fine job on whiting at Ambrose Tower and the Mud Hole. Within a few weeks, the whiting should move into beach areas where pier fishermen should get a good shot at them.

SHARK RIVER

Bobby Shinn of the Miss Belmar reported that whiting fishing was quite good during last week at the Mud Hole and southeast of the Farms. "We had a good pick of fish until the weekend arrived. On Saturday, a short dump of acid combined with a strong easterly tide hindered fishing. On Sunday, fishing was still poor, but that was due mainly to poor weather conditions. Whiting fishing is expected to bounce back as weather conditions improve." →

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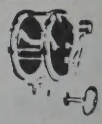

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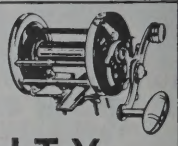

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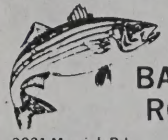

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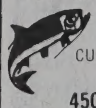

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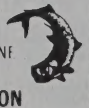

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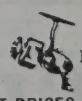

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## N.Y. Bight

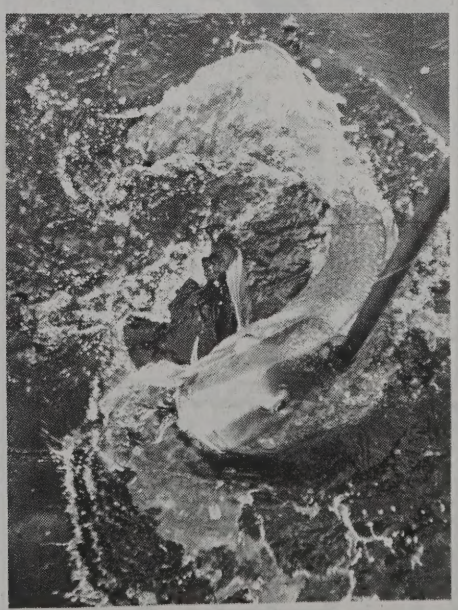
Flounder fishing has been fairly good along Shark River. Dock and pier those who try. There hasn't been any striper action locally yet. The season is now a week and a half old. Presently the water temperature is approximately 41 degrees. When the surf temperature reaches about 46 degrees, the new bass season should start.

MANASQUAN

Capt. Howard Bogan of the Jamaica reported that last week's offshore cod and pollack trip produced over 125 cod and pollack. "We fished a few wrecks southeast of Manasquan and mostly pollack were caught. Tom Wier of Jersey Ctiy jigged 12 pollack from 6 to 30 lbs. Six fish hit the scales at between 28 and 30 lbs. Louis Rumbolo of Elizabeth, N.J. was the pool winner with a chunky 34 lb. cod.

Whiting fishing at the Mud Hole is still producing good catches. Fish from a ½ to 3 lbs. are being caught. Cod fishing at the calm beds southeast of Manasquan is erratic. This fishing varies from day to day. When the fish cooperate, cod from 4 to 25 lbs. can be expected to be caught.

Flounder fishing along the Manasquan River and bay areas is holding strong. Larger flounders are starting to show and action seems to be getting better. Striper fishing for the area has not started. As soon as the surf temperatures. warm up somewhat, striper action is expected to break loose.



**This will be a common sight from now on for Hudson Canyon tile fishermen. Pictured is a 35 pounder just gaffed as he breaks the surface,**

**(Photo by Greg Beacher.)**

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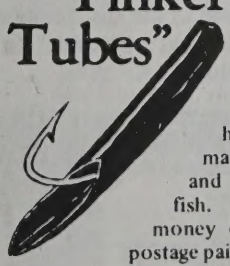

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# Connecticut Scene

*by DICK ALLEY*

■ The Connecticut River is probably one of the top early season fishing spots in the State. While Freddies in Stonington is reporting some excellent flounder fishing, the River itself is a real bonanza.

We called the Tackle Box in Meriden, and received a report on the white perch fishing in Hamburg Cove on the River. Catches of 100 to 150 white perch are common, with spinners being the magic lure. Yellow perch, fat and delicious, are hitting worms like crazy.

Another Connecticut River report comes from Walt Janeczek in New Haven's Outdoor Sports, who tells of the grey catfish to hit in a couple of weeks. These fish run up to 12 lbs., and as soon as the water warms a little bit, they'll be here. Walt also advises of an excellent flounder run in Niantic Bay, with flounder running to 2½ lbs. He passes on the reminder that a Connectiuct fishing license is needed above the demarcation line, and that over 20 anglers were arrested there over the weekend for fishing without the license. If salt water fishing is that good that far above the demarcation line, it seems to this writer that a change in the line itself would be appropriate.

Even before that article on Quincy flounder fishing made the scene, Norwalker Tom Cutrone called reporting a successful trip to flounder-land. He and a fishing buddy made the jaunt over last weekend, and recorded a poor day for Quincy, a good day for anywhere else. The weather was blowing a gale, and they had to move often to stay into fish, but still came home with 150 lbs. of fresh spring flounder, the fish averaging a pound to a pound and a half.

The mouth of the Saugatuck River in Westport proved to be the hotspot for flatties along the Connecticut shoreline this weekend. The river was crowded with party boats, and from all reports. anglers were satisfied with their catches.

Westporter Ed Newman took the first sea-run brown trout of the year, below the Kings Highway Bridge on the Saugatuck River. Just fifteen inches, it was a keeper, and an excellent way to begin the season. The Kings Highway Bridge is the demarcation line, and two trout of fifteen inches or more are allowed per day prior to the regular season.

While on the subject of trout, many Connecticut and Westchester anglers will have made the N.Y. State trout opener by this printing, and without some rain, streams should be in excellent shape this year. We made the Sportsmans Show in White Plains, and came home much enthused over N.Y. State trout fishing.

The ice is out at the Fisherman's Paradise in Danbury, and we plan a visit there today just as soon as I finish typing this column, so look for a Post Script. Last week, I visited Rainbow Lake, and was rewarded with a pair of 2½ lb. Rainbows, as frisky on the end of the rod as they were tasty in the frying pan. It was well worth the 45 minute drive to Exit 12 on Rte. 91.

At Mamaroneck, Fred Archer was blown out over the weekend, with only one boat out, but shore-bound flounder addicts did fairly well on small flats.

Doug Van Wynen watched several smelt fishermen in Greenwich for a period of two hours the other night, and saw them only average about a dozen smelt apiece, and a few more herring. Could be the pile driver in the river is having an effect on the smelt run there. Frostfish outnumber the flounder catches so far, and the little tommycod seem to be hitting rather well. Flats are expected to catch up soon.

Pat Chirillo opens up Pats Marina in Stamford this weekend, with several boats ready to go. Both weakfish and flounder are being recorded in Stamford waters, with most of the action in the channels and areas of running water.

DARIEN

Burt Van Sciver tells of flounder in the Five-Mile River and at Scotts Cove, and some rumors of early season stripers. Tehn we started talking N.Y. State trout fishing, and are now looking forward to a day in Putnam County for the opening week of the season.

NORWALK

At Four Winds, Bob Utz reported flounder in the river, and at Field Boat Yard, and a report came to light of a five pound weakfish, taken by Norwalker Paul Stabell. I'm looking forward to a fabulour weakfish run in the coming season.

Tom Duscio is now sailing daily from his Norwalk mooring on the Theresa L' and it's not far to excellent flounder fishing. Actually, it's the party boats that are scoring best right now.

The party boat angler has the opportunity to begin picking up those Schaefer Awards early in the season.

Next week – N.Y. State trout report will be included. ■

# Narragansett Scene

*by HAP KAINE*

■ Get the gaff! This growl from the coast of Rhode Island you'll be hearing at least once a month from now on. From Charlestown Breachway to the Newport Bridge, I'll try to fill you in on the best surf and boat fishing waters in the world. This is a big job. But so are the fish!

A lot of people don't seem to know that the world's record fish from the surf were caught here. Going way back there was Francis Miner who on July 23, 1887. took a bass weighing 86 pounds. Teddy Roosevelt caught his 83 pounder from a bass-stand at Wannamakers in Narragansett. More recently, the greats like Jerry Sylvester, Bernie Calitri, Joe Torturri and a lesser known gentleman, Buster Monahan, have lists of 50 pounders from the surf that go on and on.

The I.G.F.A. World's Record surf bass was caught here by Wilfred Fontaine in 1967 weighing in at 68½ pounds.

Frank Daignault, when on a cow hunt, can be found at Point Judith Light. His brother gave me a bum back from weighing in fish, all surf taken. How about Bob Gamble who had just started fishing. He picked his spot on Saturday and nailed a 28 pounder. Then just to prove it wasn't beginner's luck, he went back the next day and took a 36 from the same place.

For the boat fishermen, here are a few for starters. Alan Anderson and George Browning took 310 bass out of Salt Pond from 15 to 51 pounds in a couple of weeks last spring. Jim Mitchell, better known as the "Eel Slinger" hereabouts, has 13 fish in the 60 pound class and has stopped counting the fifties. There is of course that 64 pound gem taken at Charlestown.

But enough of the past. Let's get on with the now and upcoming. It's here! April! The small pollack are in along with cod and flatfish. The cod may be taken from the surf at this time of year with bait or jigs. Old Mr. Boot will take just about anything now. The pollack are running up to 6 pounds and are taken on small bucktails and tin. With light tackle, these pollack are as game a fish as you could get. But be careful, there is no telling when the big ones will move in and these fish can run up to 25 or 30 pounds and then it's just hang on.

There is a time of the year when small groups of striper hounds are talking in whispers in the shop and that is a big clue that bass have started up into the ponds and rivers. Salt Pond and Narrow River have a very early run of big fish. Salt Pond may be fished from shore at quite a few places. These are heavy tackle fish and good baits are live-lining buckies or suing them cut with a fish finder. Large swimming plugs and 3 oz. Kastmasters are good. Narrow River is easier to fish, using the same baits. Buckies can be dip-netted at a number of places and are available alive at a few shops in the area.

Boat fishing in Salt Pond is something to remember. Last spring Art Weist from Art and Jean's Tackle Shop in Jersey was here with two friends. They hung 37 bass from 19 to 42 pounds and this was early spring fishing, using live buckies and trolling big swimmers. Boats are available for renting, but If you prefer to bring your own, there are a number of launch areas here. There are also many small bass boats and guides for charter, all through the season.

When May arrives, we get into even better fishing. Bass have already moved in along the beaches and the schoolies are in at Deep Hole Matunuck and along the Narragansett shore. May is a great time for plug men and worm dunkers. The worm dunkers taking a variety from bass, to flounder, weakfish and tautog. More about the weakfish later. Boat fishing now is really in full swing. Bass and big pollack being taken along the entire shore line and big bass up in Narragansett Bay.

Near the end of May, we start taking bluefish at the West Breakwater and Matunuck. The first fish to show are 2 to 6 pounds and they are hungry. You can catch about as many of these blues as you can carry off or until you have an empty plug bag. Pollack can be taken here at night as well. By now

*Next Page*


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4 teaser hooks in 4 bright colors attached with swivels to heavy mono leader. Swivel for fastening rig to line, snap for adding diamond jig
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you should be using heavy tackle; the big bass are here and a hooked pollack is a tasty morsel for Old Roccus.

It should be mentioned at this point that May kicks off the tournament season. There are five good contests throughout the season. Starting with the Warwick Striper Tournament running Memorial Day weekend, followed the next week by the Wickford Striper Tournament. Also in June, we host the Waterford Connecticut Bluefish Tournament here at Point Judith. Running three days during the first week in August is the biggest, the Point Judith Bass and Blue, last year weighing in 6,300 pounds of fish. In September the Tri-State is held here for three days and the week-long Rhode Island Tournament in October.

Starting in June, these waters are loaded with bass, the big blues have arrived and all hell breaks loose. It is not stretching a point to say that these blues are a plague to bass men. They can be taken from shore as well as from a boat and weigh as much as 20 lbs. They are plug 'smashing, bait chomping killers. The moss bunkers are here too and they are a great bass bait if you can keep them away from the bluefish. Jack Goda, a local bass man took 80 fish over 40 lbs. using bunkers last year, but that is another story in itself.

By the end of June, the reports are coming in. Places like Bass Rock, Black Point, Frenchmen's and Anawan along the Narragansett coast are producing. Before you know it, July is here and the bass have settled down and now can be taken on swimming plugs and eels at night, bunkers and plugs during the day. Using live mackerel also is good now for bass, but the bluefish love them too. Blackfish, fluke and flounder are here and mackerel are in abundance. Now is the time also when a stunned angler might come in to replace a spool of line that some monster he didn't even see just stripped from his reel. Very likely it was a false albacore. It is a great fish to catch and from July on they move in and out all summer until the end of September. This is when the buggy fishermen from Connecticut are here reaping a harvest from the beaches as are the boatmen along the shore line from Napatree Point, Quonny Breachway, East Beach and Charlestown Breachway up along the Greenhill shore. These fishermen are as good as you will find anywhere.

August has good bass fishing at night and first light in the morning and on the bottom half of the tides in Salt Pond and at Narrow River. The bluefish are all around, cutting up for the shore and boat fishermen. Now you can watch giant bluefin tuna pushing water along the shore. (Two tuna tournaments are held here, August and September). In this month of August I've seen some of the greatest catches made. Surf fishing is fantastic because the spawn bunkers (moss bunkers) have moved out of the bays and are driven into pockets along the coast and the bass move in at night on these bait fish and really cut them up.

As we move into September, the action from the surf really gets hot. It seems every game fish along the coast has to eat every living thing in sight. Some guys come in from the surf that had bluefish and bass all around them, even had their waders chewed up. Then bang! We are into October and the blitz is on. You can catch bass till you get tired, so tired that you just can't fish any longer. The fish that hit the beaches here in October defy description. When kids are racking up fish into the thirty pound class from the shore, what more can be said? This fishing will run well into November. In fact, the fish often outlast the fishermen. I've seen good bass catches into December.

Some important guides for fishing around here are tides, water temperatures and of course, the hot spots. So keep an eye on the Narragansett Scene. Figure it into some of your vacation, like a lot of quiet anglers from all over the East coast. There are a variety of lodgings to fit all pocketbooks, open year 'round and many excellent camp sites.

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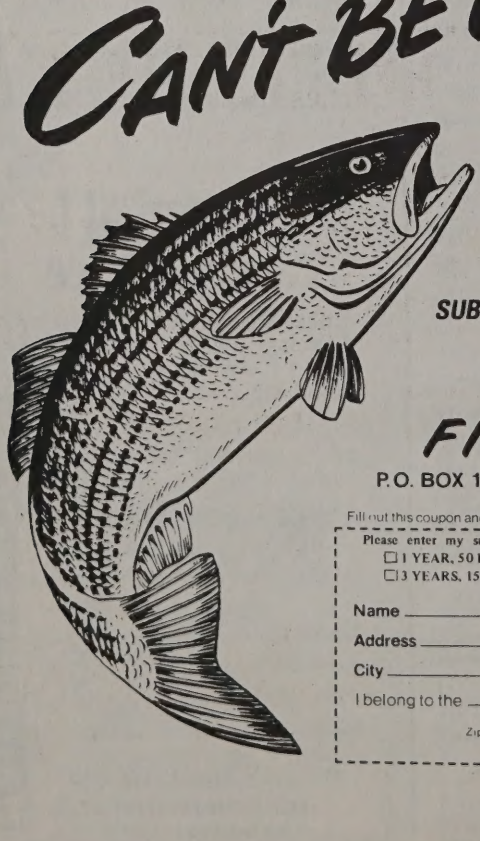

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# Late Reports

## BABYLON

Walter Schmidt of the Babylon Fishing Station reported that Saturday was a good day. Mussel chum and worms produced good catches with about 30 fish per boat. George Reha had himself 80 nice fish. The action took place in front of the swimming pool and also at the head of Dickerson and West Channels. "Flounders wherever you drop your line. They're right off Bergen Point." That makes Charlie of Charlie's Fishing Station and his customers very happy. Sizewise they run up to 1¼ lbs., with some larger fish being taken. Thirty to forty flatties per boat is the average and bloodworms do the trick.

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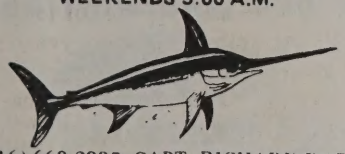
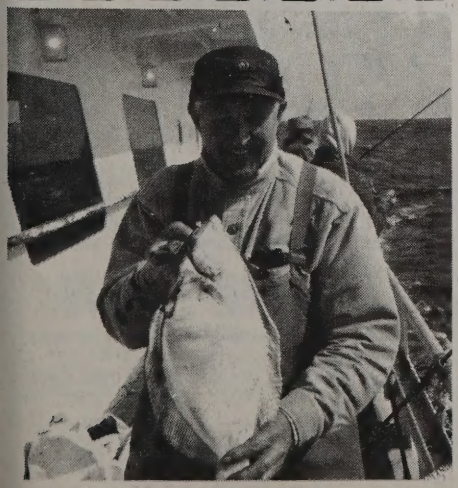


(516) 668-2885 CAPT. RICHARD RADE



FIRST SNOWSHOE OF THE SEASON Photo shows Fred Zemany of Astoria with the first snowshoe flounder of the season. Mr. Zemany fished aboard the "Viking Star."

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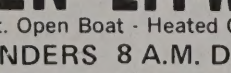
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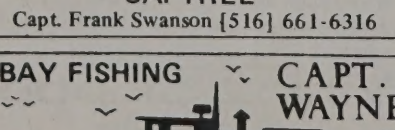

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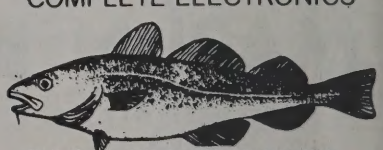
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## TIDES: SOUTH SHORE
### SANDY HOOK STATION

| DAY | A.M. | P.M. |
|---|---|---|
| Thur. | 12:14 | 12:44 |
| Fri. | 1:09 | 1:49 |
| Sat. | 2:19 | 2:57 |
| Sun. | 3:26 | 4:01 |
| Mon. | 4:29 | 5:02 |
| Tues. | 5:25 | 5:51 |
| Wed. | 6:16 | 6:39 |
| Thur. | 7:04 | 7:24 |

| | H. | M. |
|---|---|---|
| MANASQUAN | -0 | 12 |
| STATEN ISLAND | +0 | 07 |
| ROCKAWAY INLET | 0 | 00 |
| Bergen Beach | +0 | 29 |
| J.F.K. Airport | +0 | 26 |
| EAST ROCKAWAY INLET | -0 | 06 |
| Long Beach Bridge | +0 | 19 |
| JONES INLET | -0 | 19 |
| Loop Pkwy. Bridge | +0 | 25 |
| Zachs Bay | +1 | 25 |
| Gilgo Island | +2 | 25 |
| Seaford Harbor | +2 | 05 |
| FIRE ISLAND INLET | -0 | 38 |
| West Great South Bay | +2 | 10 |
| Heckscher State Park | +3 | 20 |
| East Great South Bay | +3 | 44 |
| MORICHES INLET | -0 | 56 |
| Smiths Point | +3 | 28 |
| Harts Cove | +1 | 30 |
| Potuak Point | +3 | 35 |
| SHINNECOCK INLET | -0 | 50 |
| East Quogue | +2 | 45 |
| Shinnecock Canal | +1 | 18 |
| Indian Reservation | +3 | 05 |

## TIDES: L.I. SOUND
### WILLETS POINT STATION

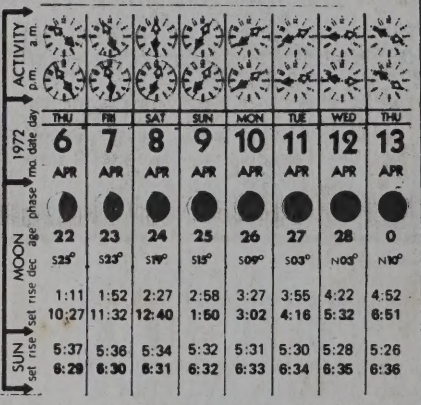
| DAY | A.M. | P.M. |
|---|---|---|
| Thur. | 3:35 | 4:09 |
| Fri. | 4:32 | 5:10 |
| Sat. | 5:34 | 6:15 |
| Sun. | 6:41 | 7:21 |
| Mon. | 7:50 | 8:19 |
| Tues. | 8:47 | 9:10 |
| Wed. | 9:39 | 9:58 |
| Thur. | 10:30 | 10:49 |

| | H. | M. |
|---|---|---|
| Little Neck Bay | -0 | 10 |
| Execution Light | -0 | 06 |
| Manhasset Bay | -0 | 01 |
| Hempstead Harbor | -0 | 11 |
| City Island | -0 | 03 |
| Rye Beach | -0 | 28 |

# FISHERMAN'S ALMANAC
GENE KOWALSKI'S

**NEW! Complete activity tables!**

The ACTIVITY CHARTS show the most probable feeding times for fish and wildlife each day, calculated from the relative positions of the sun, the moon, and the earth, A.M. means midnight to noon; P.M. means noon to midnight. PRIMARY activity periods (black arrows) last approximately two to three hours; SECONDARY activity periods (white arrows) last about an hour.




STANDARD TIME: Bold Face, P.M.; Light Face, A.M.

* THE MOON IN APRIL *

A – Moon in Apogee, April 1, 2:00 a.m.
S – Farthest S. of Equator, April 4, 5:00 p.m.
◑ – Last Quarter, April 6, 6:44 p.m.
E – Moon on the Equator, April 11, 11:00 p.m.
O – New Moon, April 13, 3:31 p.m.
P – Moon in Perigee, April 14, 4:00 a.m.
N – Farthest N. of Equator, April 17, 1:00 p.m.
◐ – First Quarter, April 20, 7:45 a.m.
E – Moon on the Equator, April 24, 9:00 a.m.
A – Moon in Apogee, April 28, 5:00 a.m.
O – Full Moon, April 28, 7:44 a.m.

**ADD 6 HOURS FOR LOW TIDE**

## TIDES: L.I. SOUND
### BRIDGEPORT STATION

| DAY | A.M. | P.M. |
|---|---|---|
| Thur. | 4:04 | 4:46 |
| Fri. | 5:07 | 5:46 |
| Sat. | 6:08 | 6:44 |
| Sun. | 7:09 | 7:38 |
| Mon. | 8:03 | 8:29 |
| Tues. | 8:55 | 9:15 |
| Wed. | 9:44 | 10:03 |
| Thur. | 10:32 | 10:50 |

| | H. | M. |
|---|---|---|
| Lloyd Point | +0 | 08 |
| Cold Spring Harbor | +0 | 08 |
| Bayville Bridge | +0 | 13 |
| Eatons Neck Point | +0 | 03 |
| Northport Bay | +0 | 03 |
| Norwalk Islands | +0 | 10 |
| Smithtown Bay | -0 | 03 |
| Cranes Neck Point | +0 | 05 |
| Port Jeff Harbor | +0 | 03 |
| New Haven Harbor | -0 | 08 |
| Mount Sinai Harbor | +0 | 08 |
| Herod Point | -0 | 07 |
| Mattituck Inlet | +0 | 19 |
| Horton Point | -0 | 20 |
| Truman Beach | -0 | 42 |

## TIDES: B.I. SOUND
### NEW LONDON STATION

| DAY | A.M. | P.M. |
|---|---|---|
| Thur. | 2:03 | 2:57 |
| Fri. | 3:04 | 3:58 |
| Sat. | 4:09 | 4:54 |
| Sun. | 5:09 | 5:42 |
| Mon. | 6:03 | 6:31 |
| Tues. | 6:53 | 7:16 |
| Wed. | 7:42 | 8:03 |
| Thur. | 8:33 | 8:49 |

| | H. | M. |
|---|---|---|
| Orient Point | +0 | 27 |
| Connecticut River | +1 | 10 |
| Little Gull Island (Race) | +0 | 12 |
| Greenport | +1 | 04 |
| Southold | +1 | 43 |
| New Suffolk | +2 | 26 |
| South Jamesport | +2 | 32 |
| Shinnecock Canal | +2 | 33 |
| Noyack Bay | +2 | 05 |
| Sag Harbor | +0 | 59 |
| Gardiners Bay | +0 | 21 |
| Promised Land (Napeague) | -0 | 14 |
| Fort Pond Bay | -0 | 29 |
| Montauk Inlet | -0 | 25 |
| Montauk Point | -1 | 13 |

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